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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

FEB 0.5 2001

Applicants:

Harry C. Dietz

Art Unit: 1635

Application No.:

09/163,289

Examiner: M. Schmidt

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed:

September 29, 1998

Title:

DELIVERY CONSTRUCT FOR ANTISENSE NUCLEIC ACIDS AND

METHODS OF USE

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## **RESPONSE**

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed August 29, 2000, please consider the following amendments and remarks:

## In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 2 and 13 as follows:

A nucleic acid construct for suppressing gene expression comprising:

[a] an unmodified 5' stem loop structure;

an antisense nucleic acid; and

[a] an unmodified 3' stem loop structure.

## CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.8 I hereby certify that the documents referred to as enclosed herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on this date. January 26, 2001, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231. Cecilia Tobin Name of Person Marling Paper Little Source January 26, 2001